

# **Lymm** *Life*

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May 2010  
Issue: 134



Take a look!

## **Simon's spoof musical**

Page 3

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# Editor's Comment



## YOU may have noticed the ongoing road works in the village centre, to replace gas pipes, has come to a standstill!

Well the good news is that the problem is not as bad as first feared and the amount of work required is not going to take as long as first anticipated.

The bad news is we don't know exactly when the work is due to start again - in fact it could be any time!

The original road closure notice lasts for a period of 29 weeks and

apparently they can come and start work again at the drop of a hat.

It seems crazy to me that they have actually filled in the holes and gone away instead of completing the job while the roads were up - but nothing surprises me in this crazy world we live in - especially when it comes to utility companies!

### Common sense

Oh and in case you hadn't noticed a General Election is looming, coinciding with the local elections on May 6. Good luck to all those entering the fray and lets hope whoever wins can run the local and national scene with a degree of common sense - or is that just hoping for a little too much?

## Win a gourmet dinner

A GOURMET dinner cooked at home by a personal chef and a chauffeur driven veteran car ride are among the prizes in the Lymm Festival Draw.

Other prizes include season tickets for two at Arley Hall and Gardens and a £250 photographic portrait experience.

Raffle tickets cost £1 each (in books of 5) and the Grand Draw will be on Saturday July 3 at 12noon at The Art in the Garden event.

Tickets will be available at venues in the village and events held in Lymm during Spring and Summer.

Anyone who would like to sell tickets should contact Ann Johnstone on 01925 75 5554.

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Talented performers Rosie O'Connor, Andy Pilkington and Kara McCabe

## Cast prepare for Simon's spoof musical!

**REHEARSALS for the ABBA spoof musical MAM, I'M 'ERE, to be staged at Altrincham's Garrick Theatre in June, are well under way as newly recruited cast members go through their paces.**

Locally based, talented actors and actresses were discovered and awarded key roles, following publicity in *Lymm Life* magazine.

Hayley Moston from Lymm will play 'Shazza', the female lead, Andy Pilkington, formerly from Lymm but now living in Manchester, will play 'Jim the teacher', her love interest, supported by Kara McCabe as 'Tracey' and Rosie O'Connor as 'Ophelia', both of Stockton Heath.

The story is based on a young girl in 1970's Liverpool who falls in love with a teacher and local rugby player. Her 'Mam and Dad' run a Drag Queen club and strongly disapprove of the relationship.

Writer and director Simon Plumb, the mastermind behind the annual Lymm Rugby Club panto, summed up the show saying: "This is a 70's, feel-good musical comedy, featuring ABBA's greatest hits. We premiered the show successfully last year and decided to take it to the Altrincham Garrick," he said. "Combining this wonderful theatre with such a talented cast, and some new scenes, will give the audience a great night out full of laughter and a fantastic ABBA sing-along."

MAM, I'M 'ERE will run from June 22-26 and tickets, at £13.50, are available through the Altrincham Garrick Box Office on 0161 928 1677 or email [boxoffice@altrinchamgarrick.co.uk](mailto:boxoffice@altrinchamgarrick.co.uk)

## Early delivery - by dad!

BABY Myla Rose took her parents by surprise when she was born on their bedroom carpet - and delivered by dad.

Claudine Stockton, 33, and her husband Graham, of Lymm, went to bed as normal on a Friday evening - and at 6.15am the following morning baby was born after a night of drama during which dad was talked through what to do over the phone.

It was all very different for Claudine, whose first baby, Carmen, was born in hospital after 20 hours of labour! Myla Rose was overdue and Claudine had been having reflexology with Tracey Turton at Cheshire Natural Health to help relax and "move things along".

The day after Myla Rose arrived she had received treatment.

When contractors started Graham rang the hospital who told him to run a hot bath for her. But things developed too quickly and soon he was on the phone again asking for a

midwife to come. Then he rang 999 as things were "moving dramatically" and they talked him through what to do - putting out towels and making his wife comfortable.

Paramedics arrived outside and Graham had to dash downstairs to let them in. Five minutes later baby was born. The couple kept each other calm and Graham said he wife was "amazing."



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## What's On in Lymm



in association with  
**LYMM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**May 10**  
LYMM HISTORY SOCIETY  
Lymm Village Hall, 8pm  
'James Brindley, Canal Engineer' - John Doughty  
AGM  
Visitors always welcome  
Enquiries: Sue Brooks, chairman 01925 758340

**May 11**  
LYMM PARISH COUNCIL  
Lymm Parish Hall, 7.30pm  
Members of the public welcome

**May 12**  
OUGHTINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE AGM  
At the centre, 7.30pm Everyone welcome.  
Refreshments available

LYMM LIONS GROUP  
Meet: Bridgewater Club, Lymm  
1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, 8pm  
Contact: 0845 833 5729

LYMM THURSDAY EVENING BRIDGE CLUB  
Lymm Village Hall every Thursday 7pm

MAPLE LODGE ART GROUP  
Meet each Wednesday 9.30am - 12.30pm  
Maple Lodge Guide HQ, Pepper St, Lymm  
Details: 01925 755126

ROTARY CLUB OF LYMM  
Meet every Wednesday at Statham Lodge Hotel 7.15pm  
for 7.45pm  
Contact the secretary 01925 755757

LOVING HANDS  
Knitting for charity at Lymm Methodist Church,  
2nd and 4th Thursday each month,  
1.30pm - 3pm. Details: 01925 823614.

MARKET LUNCHES  
Eagle Brow Methodist Church  
3rd Thursday in the month  
Light lunches 12 noon till 2pm  
All proceeds to Opening Doors Charity, Warrington

LYMM SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB  
St Mary's Church Hall  
Second and fourth Fridays (Sept - May) 7.30pm  
Details: 753853

LYMM BAPTIST CHURCH DROP LUNCH  
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LYMM JUBILEE GARDENING CLUB  
Meet Third Wednesday of the month  
Lymm Baptist Church, Higher Lane  
7.30pm  
Visitors welcome  
£2 includes tea and cake

Nonprofit making community organisations who  
would like to feature in the  
What's On Column  
should contact Lymm Life on

**01925 631592**

# Irish night raises £4,200 for Shannon

**A GRAND total of £4,200 was raised at a special Irish evening in Lymm to help send a local youngster to America for vital eye surgery.**

Little Shannon Boam, of High Legh, was born with the rare Peters Plus Syndrome, leaving her virtually blind.

Special surgery, known as keratoprosthesis, performed in the United States would cost £27,000 and her parents, Simon and Julie, have launched an appeal to raise the money.

Shannon's plight touched the hearts of many local people, including Kate and Liz Pritchard, from The Gallery Salon at Statham and they decided to organise the Irish Night at Statham Lodge.

### Success

There was a guest appearance from The Bogtrotters and the evening proved a great success.

Liz said: "We would like to thank all the local businesses and people

who supported the evening and helped make it a success.

"We hope as a result of this event, more people will come forward and help raise the £27,000 Shannon needs for the surgery to save her sight."

*Shannon with Liz Pritchard*



## New play area for tots

TOTS at Lymm Village Hall Playgroup are enjoying the spring sunshine now that a new outdoor play area has officially been opened.

The playgroup, which has been in Lymm for 37 years, is using the paved area at the front of the Village Hall to create a new play area

Temporary fencing, which can be put up and dismantled when needed, will surround the area allowing the children to play outdoors safely.

Rangers Captain and Scotland International footballer David Vveir officially opened the outdoor play area.

Lymm Village Hall Playgroup chairman Joy Parkinson, said: "It will be lovely to see all the children playing outside when it's a nice sunny day."

"Up until now any trips out of the Village Hall had to be carefully planned, with only two children being allowed out with an adult at any one time. This new outdoor area will be a huge benefit to both staff and children"

## Charity bike ride

CYCLISTS interested in getting on their bike for charity are wanted by Lymm and District Royal British Legion.

Its annual Sponsored Bike Ride will be on Sunday May 16.

The family ride begins from Pepper Street Car Park at 10.30am and the route is to Knutsford and return (about 18 miles).

All proceeds are for the Poppy Appeal and anyone interested in taking part should contact Tony Bone on 01925 753924 for a sponsor form. All ages are welcome.

## Was dog killed by adder?

A DOG has died - possibly as a result of being bitten by an adder at Lymm Dam.

The incident has raised concerns that there could be adders around the Dam, although no sightings have been reported and the borough council's ranger service is unaware of any problem.

Lymm Life reader Judy Popley raised the issue after hearing that an American family, who had now returned to the US, had lost their dog after it was bitten by a "poisonous snake" while walking at the Dam.

She suggested that warning signs should be erected.

"A bite to a young child could have serious consequences," she said.

A borough council spokeswoman said: "The council has not received any reports of sightings in Lymm, and the rangers are unaware of a problem in this area. Anyone with any concerns or who wants to report a sighting should contact the council's ranger service via our Contact Centre on 443322."

"Any incidents will be properly assessed and we would take appropriate action if necessary."

Adders are a protected species under the Wildlife and Countryside Act and should not be killed, injured or sold.

Anyone who is bitten by any wild animal should seek medical attention immediately and contact the council to report the incident.

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## Microchipping Offer at Lymm Veterinary Surgery

As pet owners, you may be aware of the recent government activity surrounding dog ownership and legislation. Over the past few months, ideas have been discussed in parliament regarding compulsory third party insurance and microchipping of all dogs. Whilst the insurance idea seems to have been put on the back burner for the time being, the government is putting measures into place to ensure that all dogs are microchipped. There are no official timescales as yet but if you would like your pet to be microchipped, Lymm Veterinary Surgery are offering a 25%

discount on our microchipping service. For just £19 your pet will have a small microchip implanted under their skin. The procedure is quick and painless and no anaesthetic is required- it is similar to having a vaccination. Your details will then be stored on a national database, ensuring that if your pet ever goes missing, they can be identified and returned safely to you. Cats, dogs and rabbits can be microchipped and the discounted rate applies to all the aforementioned species. The offer will run until the end of May 2010.



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# Auction of promises for school's Afritwins

**AN Auction of Promises at Lymm aims to help raise funds for dictionaries at an African school.**

For the past seven years Lymm High School pupils have been part of the Afritwin project which links with schools in South Africa.

One school is the well-resourced Glen, at Pretoria while the other is in

a developing area - Qhasana High in Mdantsane Township.

The aim of the link is for pupils to share learning experiences. To develop the links a party of pupils and

staff from Lymm are travelling to South Africa in the summer.

A school spokesperson said: "Education is not free at Qhasana and resources are very limited. For the past months, the students have been raising funds to bring dictionaries to the school - very much needed as exams are in English which is not the students' first language.



Declan Lyons and Mollie Lewtas with some of the items to be auctioned.

## A civilised way to make new friends

**AN organisation offering fine food and good company is seeking new members.**

The Dinner Club describes itself as an up-market national organisation for discerning singles and is based in Chester and operates throughout the northwest.

Founded in 1986, it stresses it is not a dating or introduction agency but rather an organisation which offers members a civilised way to make new friends and widen their social circle.

Membership is made up of people of all ages, mainly from professional or business backgrounds, who are single, divorced, separated or widowed. Most are in the 45-60 plus age group. There is also a younger group for ages 30-45.

Events organised include dinners, dinner dances, black tie balls, theatre evenings, horse racing and holidays.

A Dinner Club spokesman said: "Making new friends should be a rich

and rewarding experience but often, when you're single and tied to the home or have a demanding job, there's little opportunity to expand beyond your immediate social circle.

"Wouldn't it be nice to meet like-minded people you can get on with? That's exactly the concept - a civilised way to make new friends."

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# Jayne's dream trip to Winter Olympics

**JAYNE Moston, swimming and sports development manager at Lymm High School is back home after the trip of a lifetime - helping with drug testing at the Winter Olympics in Canada.**

Jayne spent five weeks in Canada, during and before the Games, as one of nine UK Ambassadors for Sport, assisting with the organisation of the event.

She works part time for UK Anti-Doping, the national organisation for doping control in all sport and was invited to join the team carrying out testing for illegal drugs among the athletes.

She was based in Whistler and was there on the opening day when the tragic accident which led to the

death of Georgian luger Nodar Kumaritashvili, aged 21, took place.

Jayne said: "It was so terrible. Everyone was so shocked and saddened.

"It cast a shadow over the whole Games.

"But in other respects it was a wonderful experience - one I will never forget.

"The scenery at Whistler was magnificent."

Jayne is grateful to headteacher Angela Walsh for allowing her to

have time off to attend the Games and believes her experiences will have benefits for the school - a specialist sports college.

She will be giving presentations on the Games at the school and expects to also be involved in a similar role in the 2012 Games in London.



## Youngsters get first taste of Playscape

**LYMM'S super new Playscape Zone playground - designed and built after consultation with local youngsters - has opened in Ridgway Grundy Park.**

Parents and children turned up in force for the grand opening when the

new play equipment became available for use.

There was ice cream, candy floss and other food on sale as youngsters sampled the equipment which includes a basketball court, climbing wall, over head rotator and basket swings, banked slide, climbing structures and a zip slide.

Children got involved in creating the playground when they took part in a survey organised by local parent Steve Towndrow.

The £78,000 scheme was funded by the borough council, with help received from Play England.

It caters for 8-13 year-olds.

Mr Towndrow said: "This facility is a wonderful addition to our local community."

The Playscape Zone is in the centre of the park - thus winning the approval of nearby residents.



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# Dog's life for smokers pets

**PET-OWNERS who smoke in Lymm are being warned how second hand smoke could leave their pooch in very poor health.**

The North West has some of the highest smoking rates in the country and 44 per cent of its homes have a pet – mostly a dog, cat or bird.

That means as many as 750,000 household pets in the North West could be at risk from illnesses like asthma, respiratory infections or even

death due to inhaling their owners' second hand smoke, according to Smokefree North West, a body of anti smoking organisations across the region.

David Tweedle, practice manager and veterinary surgeon at Lymm Veterinary Surgery, said: "Respiratory infections are very common, particularly in dogs and we see a lot of it."

## Affect

"There is no doubt that living with an owner who smokes will affect a pet's health. There is evidence that



passive smoking in dogs causes chronic bronchitis and can aggravate feline asthma in cats."

Now Smokefree North West and the British Veterinary Association are asking smokers to consider the health of their furry friends during 'National Pet Month' in April.

## Will Elliot be the last winner?

A 14-year-old clarinettist from Lymm won what could be the last-ever Warrington Competition for Young Musicians.

Elliot Gresty came first in the Upper Division of the competition, organised since 1998 by WACIDOM - Warrington Arts Council Initiative for the Development of Music - beating off the challenge of talented young musicians from all over the North West.

He was presented with his award by Lord and Lady Ashbrook after the finals took place at Arley Hall.

After the finals, WACIDOM chairman Norman Cutter revealed that this year's competition could not have gone ahead without an unexpected donation of £2,000.

In the past, the organisation had received Lottery funding on four occasions up to 2006 and had also received fairly regular support from Warrington Borough Council.

This year, however, the support was reduced and funds for the competition are now almost completely exhausted.



*Elliot receiving his award from Lord and Lady Ashbrook.*

Cost of this year's competition was more than £7,000. While, in the past, the organisation had managed to acquire adequate grants, only £400 was received this year, due to the economic climate.

Mr Cutter said it seemed the long-running and highly regarded venture, organised by a handful of volunteers, would come to an end, unless some other source of income could be found.

He urged supporters to act as "ambassadors" and raise money from individuals interested and willing to support the arts musically.

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## Lymm's best kept secret?

**FACILITIES at Lymm Golf Club remain one of the village's 'best kept secrets' according to club officials.**

This year they are hoping to develop links with the community and attract new members.

The club recently opened a refurbished clubhouse allowing greater use for social functions from parties to wedding receptions.

Closer ties have been forged with local organisations, such as Lymm Festival.

Club administration manager Trevor Glover said: "The club house has continued to grow as a local facility but still remains the best kept secret as far as local venues are concerned."

Charities also use the venue, for

social events and golf days.

Last year a membership drive was held and more than 30 new members signed up - but more would be welcome.

### Thriving

The club also has a thriving junior section with more than 50 young people being involved at any one time. Coaching is provided by resident PGA professional Steve MacCarthy and a number of senior club members are also involved with ensuring that the junior section continues to develop.

## Youngsters delight Rotary

MORE than 140 older people from Lymm and Thelwall were treated to music provided by Lymm High School pupils at the annual Rotary Club senior citizens party at Statham Lodge Hotel.

The School's String Quartet - Seb and Ella Wyss on violins, Josh Monks on viola and Sam McAvoy on Cello - played a lively arrangement of The Teddy Bear's Picnic.

### Wowed

Then 12-year old Hannah Williams wowed the audience with a selection of songs from shows including "I Dreamed a Dream" from Les Misérables.

After bingo, tea was served with sandwiches and cakes, prepared by the ladies of the Inner Wheel Club. Then they sat back to relax and enjoy an hour's selection of great music provided by the 14-piece Kaleidoscope Big Band.

## School helps boost Rotary Shelter Box appeal

LITTLE Bollington C of E Primary School was thrilled to be able to present Roger Brunt, a representative from Shelter Box and Rotary International, with cheques for £1000 to purchase two Shelter Boxes.

A total of £750 was raised through the schools Harvest appeal and Christmas production while members of Lymm Rotary Club donated the outstanding

£250 and attended the presentation to help assemble the 10 man tent!

Shelter Boxes provide shelter and basic equipment to support up to 10 people and are used extensively where there has been a humanitarian crisis, most recently Haiti. The children can't wait to track their boxes via the Shelter Box website. To find out more go to [www.shelterbox.org](http://www.shelterbox.org)



(L-R) Vice President Mike Dunkley, Kate Brunt, Rotarian Neville Davies, Head Teacher Caroline Johnstone, Roger Brunt, Chair of Governors Christine Warr, Rev Philip Robinson and pupils Oliver, Rio, Holly, Beth, Molly, Ciara, Alex, Sean and Isaac.

# LYMM Golf Club



Contact Trevor Glover  
**01925 755020**

[membership@lymm-golf-club.co.uk](mailto:membership@lymm-golf-club.co.uk)

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# Anglers bid to restore dam to former glory

**ANGLERS** are re-stocking picturesque Lymm Dam in a bid to return it to the heady days of the 1950's and 1960's when it was considered one of the finest fisheries in the North West.

Bay Malton Angling Club have been stocking the dam with fish including Roach and Perch to 1½ lb, and Mirror and Common Carp to 30lb.

Ernie Shufflebotham – Fisheries Development Officer, says the dam was one of the finest fisheries in the North West during the 50's and 60's and Bay Malton AC are hoping to bring those heady days back to Lymm.

"The club has invested a great deal of money on their project at Lymm Dam including new fishing stages, access paths, wild flower planting

and water plants.

"There is still much to do and the next project is to provide Disabled access to enable the less abled anglers safe access to the venue and hopefully if the club is successful they would like to see the Disabled Angling Championship held at Lymm Dam."

He added that the club would like to take this opportunity to thank Warrington Borough Council, Lymm Parish Council, Lymm Heritage Group and Friends of Lymm Dam for all their support.



Dominic Swain (Head Bailiff) and Ernie Shufflebotham (Fisheries Development Officer) stocking Lymm Dam.

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## Thousands flock to

### THOUSANDS of people flocked to the annual Lymm Duck Race organised by members of Lymm Roundtable.

The annual event on the lower dam in Lymm village centre, helps raise thousands of pounds for local charities and good causes.

Beneficiaries this year include Oughtrington Community Centre Roof Appeal.

Members of Lymm Roundtable sold plastic ducks to members of the public for £1 each and corporate ducks for £25 each and then released them on the lower dam.

For more pictures from the event visit [www.lymmlife.co.uk](http://www.lymmlife.co.uk)



## Easter Egg Hunt winners

MANY thanks to everyone in the village who took part in Lymm Life's Easter Egg Hunt competition.

There were 49 pictures of Easter eggs displayed around the village and the first prize went to Alexi who found 45 eggs!

Second prize was won by three sisters, Bethany, Caitlin and Isabel who found 43 eggs. Third prize was won by Maddie who found 41 eggs who hunted high and low with her mum on three trips to the village! All the children were delighted with their Easter egg prizes, especially Alexi who won a cuddly Easter bunny and Cadbury's Giant Easter egg! All proceeds went to the Lymm Round Table Duck Race funds.

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# o Lymm Duck Race



There off! Members of Lymm Roundtable release the ducks

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# Youth club's future still in doubt

**THE long-term future of Lymm Youth and Community Centre remains in doubt following "clear the air" statements issued by local borough councillors and members of the centre's management committee.**

Both sides say they are committed to the future of a viable youth and community facility in the village - but both also accuse the other side of creating an "atmosphere of acrimony".

The borough council has offered a three-year lease at a "nominal rent" but the management committee would like a longer period.

But the council also intends to keep the site of the building, in Henry Street, on a list of sites for potential

disposal, sparking fears that it could be sold for waterside apartments.

The management committee is pressing on with a programme of events at the centre and says it plans to link up with the Canal Boat Adventure Project and a number of other organisations to provide exciting opportunities for young people in Lymm and South Warrington.

Committee secretary Neville Davies said: "We have been inspired

in our resolve to secure this facility for the people of Lymm and we are confident that Warrington Borough Council too will develop the confidence and commitment to support our aim to re-invigorate services for young people and older residents across South Warrington for the foreseeable future."

Lymm's three borough councillors, Ian Marks, Bob Barr and Sheila Woodyatt, say they support the management committee's initiative to revive the youth club building and

believe a three-year lease will provide enough time to test the demand for the facility, either in its present building or elsewhere.

One issue still unresolved is ownership of the Henry Street site, with the borough council claiming it belongs to the authority while the management committee say they have legal advice to the contrary.

The three councillors say the legal issue must be resolved - with all sides agreeing to the outcome.

## Brontes were a 'colourful lot'

**PART** two of the Bronte family story, told to Heatley WI, showed them to be a "colourful lot."

Margaret Curry returned to the group and showed slides and told tales of the brother, Bramwell, as well as the famous sisters.

She showed she knew her subject well and told members of the houses and countryside that had influenced the Bronte's work. Although Bramwell did not contribute to the literature he certainly "added colour" to the Yorkshire moors.

Liz Wellbelove and Ann Malcolm reminded members about forthcoming events including a celebration at Cholmondeley Castle, a quiz night, birthday party and a visit by the original

Calendar girls at the group meeting.

The line dancing coffee morning had been a success and photographs of the event were displayed.

Ann Oakes reported on the Cheshire council meeting and said a resolution proposed by Lymm WI, to support grandparents who have lost touch with their grandchildren after parents separate, was adopted.

Janet Williams won the competition for a thimble and Christine Syers was runner-up. Raffle winners were Joyce Heald and Kath Williams.

Brenda Topping was thanked for her work for the WI and accepted the plant from the president's table.





# Marathon Mary aims to help orphans

**WELL-known Lymm woman Mary Cottrill is running the London Marathon to help raise funds for orphaned and abandoned children in poor countries.**

Former French teacher Mary, the wife of former Lymm GP Dr Paul Cottrill, is looking for sponsors for the run on April 25.

She started fundraising for the event with a message in her Christmas cards which read: "After several years of trying, I have at long last got a place in the London Marathon."

"I shall be running for a fantastic charity called SOS Children's Villages, which is mainly involved in building groups of houses for orphaned and abandoned children, all over the world. Each child is promised a mother, who is theirs for life, a home with brothers and sisters, in a village which is their link with the outside world."

Mary, 62, and Paul have visited several of the sites on their travels and say they have been very impressed with what they found.

She said those helped are "happy, healthy, confident children, obviously well cared for and much loved."

Now busy training, she hopes that local people will sponsor her.

Anyone interested in helping can visit [www.justgiving.com/marycottrill](http://www.justgiving.com/marycottrill)

## Top award for Ken Smart

WELL known local businessman Ken Smart has been presented with Rotary's highest honour in recognition of his outstanding charity work.

Ken of Smart Furnishings Ltd, of Stockton Heath, Warrington, has been presented with the Paul Harris Fellowship by Runcorn Rotary Club, where he is a member.

He has donated towards Shelter Boxes and Water Boxes internationally for areas stricken by Tsunami's and earthquakes e.t.c.

Nearer home he has supported appeals made through Rotary

Clubs for assistance during the recent floodings in Cumbria.

He has also donated to the general fund of the club enabling them to support a local boy suffering from Muscular Dystrophy by purchasing a "neater cheater" machine which will enable the boy to feed himself, thereby giving some degree of independence.

Mr Smart was granted honorary membership Runcorn Rotary Club for his constant support, which culminated in him being awarded the Paul Harris Fellowship, so named after the founder of Rotary 106 years ago.








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Squad members were: Rhys Lilly, Jack Porteous, James Sherlock, Max Ure, Neil Llewellyn, George Hughes, George Monaghan, Will Buckley, Will Caldwell, Luke Diamond, Joe Murphy, Declan Grogan, Morgan Broadbent, Sam Lloyd, George Smith, George Harvey, Adam Whitehead, Sam Howell, Henry Boydell, Alex Galloway, Tom Trenholm & Francis Young.

## Under 10's at Twickenham!

**LYMM RFC Under 10s took on and defeated champion mini rugby teams from all over the country over the Easter weekend setting themselves up for an appearance at Twickenham in the national finals.**

Taking part in the annual Nottingham Festival, the premier Mini Rugby Festival in the UK, the boys defeated Topsham (Devon Champions), Northampton Old Scouts (Northamptonshire Champs) and Uppingham (Essex Champions), in what was a competitive set of matches against well organised and drilled rugby teams.

In winning Lymm RFC qualified for the National Finals held at Twickenham, as a curtain raiser to Premier Rugby Grand Final day on May 29.

It was the defensive effort that yet again made the difference, as the boys

came away with a 5 from 5 playing record and nil tries conceded. Against the best teams in the country this was a fantastic achievement and required great commitment to support each other in defending.

The A2 team also came close to qualifying in the Plate Final but were denied by a last play from local rivals Macclesfield.

If anyone is interested in joining Lymm RFC Under 10s or another of their mini and junior teams, please contact Nick Hughes nhughes1007@aol.com or 07834 307556.

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## Open garden for charity

GARDEN fans have the chance to visit a beautiful Lymm garden and help raise money for a worthy charity at the same time.

As part of the National Gardens Scheme Janet Bashforth of Mayfield, The Peppers, Lymm, is opening her garden to the public.

It will be open on three dates Sunday April 25 from 12 noon to 5pm, Saturday June 19, 12 noon to 5pm, and an evening opening on Saturday July 10, from 7.30pm to 10pm.

Gardens throughout the country are being opened to raise funds for eight charities including Macmillan Cancer Support and Marie Curie Cancer Care.



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# *Dining Out* <sup>Lymm</sup> *with Life*

## New restaurant meets the challenge

**LYMM has, for many years, been particularly well served by restaurants and cafes, so when a new one opens it obviously faces something of a challenge.**

Elmas Mediterranean Cuisine, at 2, Pepper Street arrived with an impressive menu covering dinner, lunch, breakfast and periods in between that more than meets the challenge.

The restaurant is small, with a warm, intimate atmosphere and the staff are friendly and helpful. But of course the food is what matters most and here the quality really shines through.

We went to Elmas for dinner and discovered a huge range of choices on the menu. From no less than 21 hot and cold starters we chose pan-fried mushrooms, oven baked in a creamy wine sauce and meatballs in a tomato, basil and garlic sauce with fresh herb seasoning. Both were delicious.

For our main course we chose medallions of lamb, served with mashed potatoes and burgundy mint sauce and Mediterranean sautéed chicken with sweet peppers and mustard cream and white wine sauce.

Again these were of mouth-watering quality and attractively presented.

In fact there was a range of 17 main courses, with lamb, chicken, beef, steaks, fish and vegetarian and salad dishes - plus a huge range of pizza and pasta specials.

The dessert menu offers traditional favourites and seasonal treats,

-ranging from the indulgent to "healthier options" and all quite irresistible.

The meal was complemented by an excellent selection of wines from around the world.

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Delightful Days at The Suncliffe, Bournemouth - 7th March - 5 Days - £TBA



# Lymm Piranhas FC receive FA Charter Standard Club Award

**LYMM Piranhas FC have been awarded the prestigious FA Charter Standard Club award for grassroots football by the Cheshire County Football Association.**

Rangers and former Everton star David Weir was on hand to help the club celebrate achieving the award.

The FA Charter Standard programme, supported by FA partner McDonald's, was established to help clubs to improve standards of coaching, administration, player development and safeguarding children. The FA Charter Standard award is presented to those clubs like

Lymm Piranhas FC who have raised their standards in these areas and lead the field in promoting best football practice, both on and off the pitch in grassroots football.

Mark Robison, Club Chairman said: "Lymm Piranhas are delighted to have achieved FA Charter Standard. We are committed to giving opportunities to children of all abilities within the local community to play

football. By becoming a charter standard club, we have ensured that all of our coaches have the necessary skills to do this."

Peter Nicholls, Senior Football Development Officer added: "The FA Charter Standard award acknowledges the support Lymm Piranhas FC provides to the local community and their efforts to ensure the club offers opportunities for players to develop their skills and play football in a safe and positive environment. The Cheshire County FA

is committed to raising the standards of football at grassroots level and the dedication and achievements of clubs like Lymm Piranhas FC make this possible."

Lymm Piranhas FC were presented with their award at their training ground at Lymm Leisure Centre.

Since 2002, over 117 clubs representing more than 1300 teams in Cheshire have achieved FA Charter Standard Club, Adult Club, Development or Community Club status.



Chief Executive of the Cheshire FA Maureen Dunford, Football Development Officer James Self and Rangers defender David Weir presenting the Charter Standard plaque to Lymm Piranhas Chairman Mark Robison and players from the club.



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# £1m facelift for Raven Court

**A 16-month facelift which has transformed a block of dated bedsits at a cost of £1 million, has been completed.**

Raven Court, in Pepper Street, Lymm is now a development of 16 one and two bedroom apartments - the only affordable rented retirement apartments in the village.

The work has been carried out for Warrington Housing Association (WHA), who took over the property from the borough council in 2008.

Finished to an immaculate standard, the scheme offers residents comfortable and energy efficient homes, says WHA.

## Remodelling

The largest investment went on remodelling the back of the building to provide a brand new secure main entrance, due to uneven levels at the original frontage which made access difficult for many residents and visitors.

Other significant changes include the addition of a conservatory, new laundry facilities, the provision of a lift and communal study plus the installation of a 24 hour security system.

Modern kitchens, larger bedrooms and spacious lounges as well as

numerous features such as walk in showers and energy saving heating and ventilation systems have also been added.

WHA chief executive Alan Kemp said: "We are pleased with the results at Raven Court. The lengthy project was well worth the investment as the scheme now offers pleasant, welcoming and more importantly affordable accommodation for retired residents."

"The structural and cosmetic refurbishment is enhanced further with the 24 hour emergency call system, which provides residents with added security in their homes."

"Catering for both retired couples and individuals, Raven Court is the only scheme of its kind in Lymm and adds to the portfolio of retirement schemes managed by the association across the borough."

Local councillor Sheila Woodyatt said: "The transformation of Raven Court is unbelievable. It is a stunning scheme that will appeal to many retired residents."

## Obituaries

### James Arthur Read

FORMER Lymm resident James Arthur Read of Wilmslow Crescent, Thelwall, has died at Warrington Hospital, aged 86.

Known to everyone as Arthur, he loved telling tales of his time at Cliff Lane, the Merchant Navy and his life in Lymm, where he was born.

He enjoyed collecting watches and would travel far and wide looking for them. He also helped and cared for others. He leaves a sister, five nephews and two nieces.



### Jean Maynard

THE funeral has taken place of Mrs Jean Eirlys Maynard (nee Davies), aged 74, of Old Smithy Lane, Lymm.

She died at Royal Liverpool University Hospital on February 21.

Born in Birmingham, she lived in Lymm for almost 40 years. She was a talented pianist and before retiring in 1996 gave piano lessons and was a pianist for a local ballet school for 20 years. She sang in choral and operatic societies in West London, where she played the part of Adele in Der Fledermaus.

She loved gardening and won a design award at the Manchester

Parks Department Flower Show at Platt Fields in 1971, where the winner's cup was presented by Percy Thrower.

She is survived by her husband David, daughter and granddaughter.

A service was held at St Mary's Church, Lymm, followed by cremation at Walton Lea, conducted by the Rev Keith Maudsley.

Funeral arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons, Lymm.



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## Reader's Letter

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or email: [info@lymm.life.co.uk](mailto:info@lymm.life.co.uk)

## Apologies

Chris Wakefield, Lymm

I offer my sincere apologies for any contribution I have made to prolonging the difficulties that drivers experience turning right out of Highfield Road. However, before David Roberts and others judge me too harshly, I suggest they ask David Boyer, Head of Sustainable Transport, whether he ordered a safety audit at this junction before he proposed the waiting ban.

An audit should accompany any safety intervention to avoid unintended consequences but unfortunately sometimes gets missed. Such an audit has to consider the speed and volume of traffic and the needs of vulnerable road users. It would also have to investigate why the majority of injuries sustained at the junction are with vehicles travelling east rather than west on the A56. An audit is an opportunity to arrive at a solution that meets the needs of drivers and vulnerable road users.

The proposed ban appears to benefit drivers only and could encourage acceleration westwards. The situation for pedestrians crossing the A56 is difficult enough already. The Cherry Tree School Travel Plan provides evidence of the ongoing problems. Just watch High School students take risks as they cross towards Princess Road. Those who do not have the luxury of a car struggle to the bus stop at Massey Brook.

Speeds of 60 mph are regularly witnessed in the area and unfortunately borough councillors find it difficult to put sufficient pressure on the traffic authorities to bring the situation under control. One councillor at a meeting in the Village Hall said that high speeds would make it difficult to place a pedestrian crossing at the Shell Garage!

My suggestion would be to move the centre line of the road north, narrow the road, eliminate the turning bays and provide parking and a kerb build out for visibility on the south side. Turning vehicles slow following vehicles down and do not cause significant congestion at all the many junctions to the east so why have three lanes opposite Highfield Road? There may be better solutions. Let's work together and come up with a proposal.

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